

Hello. I'm Donna Obermiller, and I'm from Laramie, Wyoming. My family was originally from here a long time ago when the railroads started. My father's family also worked in the energy industry, and they were also military men. And the military has spoken to me many times about my service and thanking me for what I do. I think everyone who has utilized electricity knows that workers are responsible for providing the services to us. I want to say that I'm here with the Sierra Club today and that I am resourcing what I'm about to say from an article by Jonathan Tasini "How to Support Energy and Not Be a Jerk" about it. I would like to say that the focus that I would like to speak on today is selling oil to foreign markets. I think we should consider the needs of the American workers before we do that. And I see what is happening here is that our society is transitioning from fossil fuel and coal, and we are moving towards a large-scale loss of jobs that can be seen in the communities in Wyoming. We can see, by labor's mobilization also with the raising of the minimum wage to \$15, that it is possible for Congress in the United States to respond to the will of the workers. Beyond promising coal workers green jobs at the same rate of pay, we have to be realistic and admit that a switch in emphasis may be necessary on a scale. What scale? How long? How much on a big scale? On the scale that was used at reeducating people at the end of the second world war when our economy was devastated by a depression and also a war economy? Our infrastructure needs to be replaced in building, engineering, and transportation, not just in green jobs, and that means funding for education, long-term funding -- not a month, not a year, maybe like four years and graduate degrees.